

*Our Dumb*

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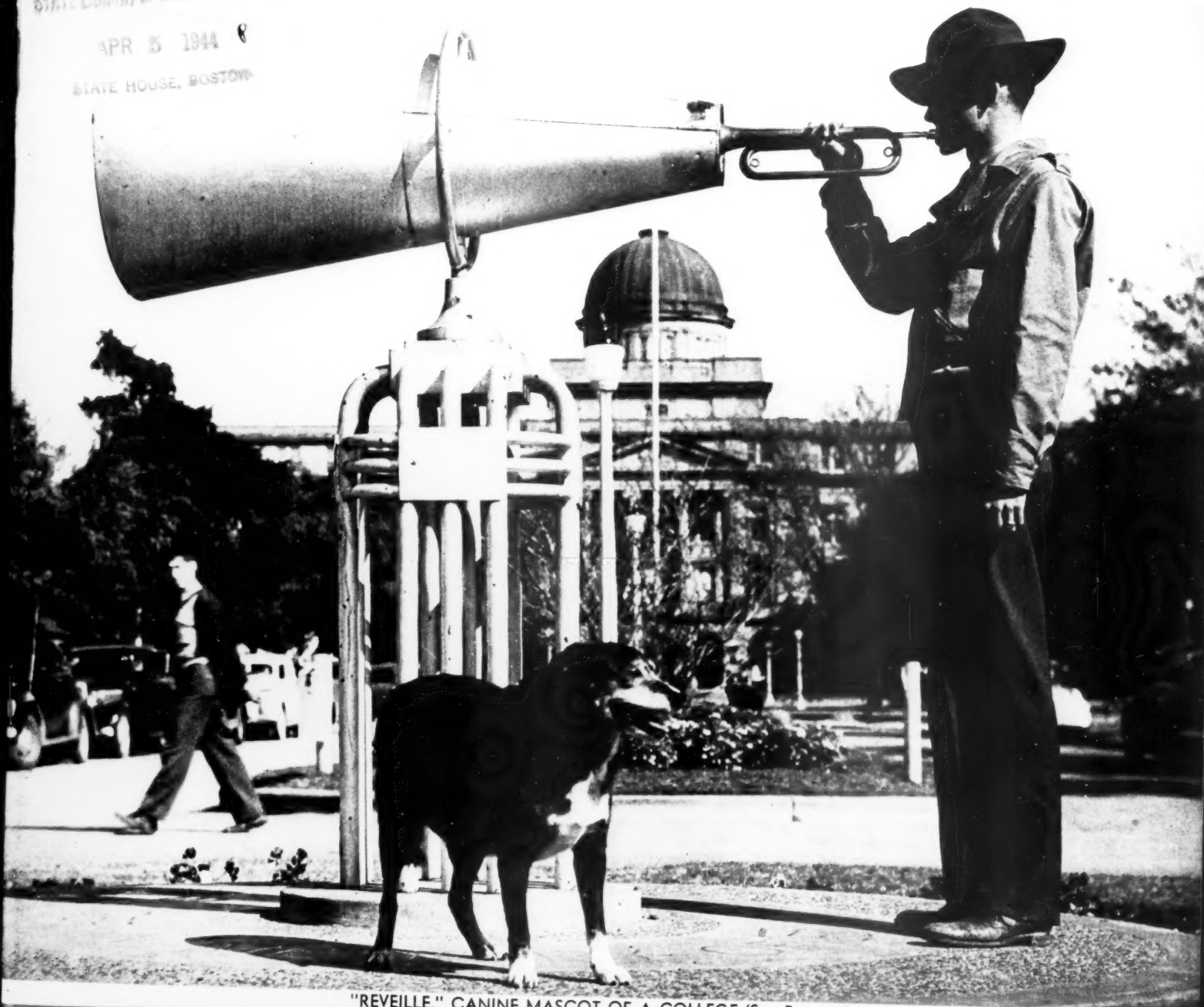
APRIL • 1944

# ANIMALS

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STATE HOUSE, BOSTON



"REVEILLE," CANINE MASCOT OF A COLLEGE (See Page 64)

*The MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY for the PREVENTION of CRUELTY to ANIMALS*

*and the*

AMERICAN HUMANE EDUCATION SOCIETY



# OUR DUMB ANIMALS

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# From the PRESIDENT'S DESK



**L**OVING kindness is worth more than all self-sacrifices.

Forgive, and God will forgive thee.

Love is greater than alms.

Alms require the giving of money—love, the giving of self.

Alms are only for the poor—the rich need love as well.

The good man of all the Gentile races will inherit the world to come.

—From the Jewish Talmud

**I**T was Alexandre Dumas pere, who said, "Dogs are candidates for humanity." They already have many of its virtues and few of its vices.

**P**ERHAPS he was a cynic, but he was no fool—the man who said, twenty odd years ago, "The War to end war has been succeeded by a Peace to end peace." Can it happen again?

**T**HERE is food for thought in the saying of Bernard Shaw that the more things a man is ashamed of, the more respectable citizen he is.

**I**T is remarkable what wonderful stories of animal intelligence and devotion the fertile imagination of the average newspaper reporter can produce.

**H**E was a wise old King who, confronted by many a sorrow and bitter experience, learned the wisdom of saying to himself, "This too will pass."

**P.** T. BARNUM'S biographer made the unexpected statement that the famous showman never manifested any particular fondness for animals. Business was business.

**A**Gainst the inhumanity of race prejudice, violence, unbrotherly strife, and for peace and a wide humanity, Humane Education unceasingly stands.

## Have They a Future?

**W**E are thinking of that vast world of sentient life, to which belong the creatures we speak of as below us in the scale of being. Does death for them end all? No man can answer that question. As to our own immortality we cannot prove it. It is a matter of faith, believing where we cannot see.

Yet, if the scales of eternal justice are somewhere in a final reckoning to be balanced, one cannot help wondering what will go into those scales to balance the suffering endured by earth's unnumbered, innocent animals during the ages through which they have been the victims of man's indifference, cruelty and neglect. The way of the transgressor is hard, but the beasts of the field and the fowl of the air have not transgressed. They have lived out their lives, violating no conscience, incurring no guilt, and yet their sufferings have been one of the blackest pages in human history.

## A Prayer

**T**HE author of this prayer we knew. It breathes his spirit—the spirit of a fine Christian soul. His name was Morney Williams:

O God, who hast made man in Thine own likeness and who does love all whom Thou hast made, suffer us not, because of difference in race, color or condition, to separate ourselves from others, and thereby from Thee; but teach us the unity of Thy family and the universality of Thy love. As Thy Son, our Savior, was born of an Hebrew mother and ministered first to His brethren of the House of Israel, but rejoiced in the faith of a Syro-Phoenician woman and of a Roman soldier, and suffered His cross to be carried by a man of Africa, teach us, also, while loving and serving our own, to enter into the communion of the whole human family; and forbid that, from pride of birth and hardness of heart, we should despise any for whom Christ died, or injure any in whom He lives. Amen.

## Premonition in Animals

**A**NIMALS have strange premonitions sometimes. Dogs showed signs of great uneasiness two days before the last eruption of Mt. Etna began, and went about howling. Birds also stopped singing two days before.

When the first shock came, cats mewed pitifully and rubbed themselves against the feet of the nearest human being.

Hares came out of their hiding places and huddled together on the roads, showing not the slightest fear of passers-by.

## Great Sad Russia

**W**HEN we read the literature of Russia, and perhaps even more when we listen to the national music of the Russian people, the strange charm, vibrant with the suppressed glow of passion, makes us conscious of the mighty, stirring echoes of melancholy from limitless steppes, from the unknown depths of an alien existence; we seem to hear a soul in bondage utter its eternal yearning for liberty, and deep down in that soul we recognize a world unborn.

—Quoted

## For You and Me

**I**N an article contributed to the magazine, *Think*, Dr. Robert A. Milliken, one of the world's leading scientists, writes, "The key to the future of peace and the future of civilization lies in real Anglo-American understanding and co-operation. Whether we can get it or not depends upon how you and I, the average American citizens, stop the spread of anti-British poison wherever we find it, and then think straight and talk straight now and in the post-war years."

**T**HE carrion crow, like many of our wild birds, is loyal to his mate as long as she lives. The swan mates for life. If one of the pair dies, the other never remates. A pretty respectable social life exists among birds.

## Beloved Mascot of a College . . . By G. B. WINSTEAD

**I**F a tradition may be called beautiful then there is beauty in the love and devotion shown by students of Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College over the past twelve years for a plain, unpedigreed member of the canine family, a female dog, almost black, named "Reveille," but affectionately called "Rev" by the student body.

Like her date of birth, Rev's bloodline is obscure. She was picked up one night in 1931, by some A. & M. boys on a road south of the campus and taken to a dormitory where a leg hurt was dressed and she was allowed to remain. Soon Rev was able to go to Sbisa Hall (the mess hall) and rustle her own food, and it was not long before she began to roam over the entire campus, bedding down at night where she chose. If she happened to pick some boy's bed, it was up to him to sleep with her or find other quarters.

When the band would play, Rev would frolic in and out of the band formation. Firmly established as the mascot of the Texas Aggies, Rev made trips with the cadet corps, having a Freshman detailed to see that she made the trip and returned safely.

Twelve or thirteen years is a long time as dogs go, so students at A. & M. decided

to preserve Rev's likeness on canvas for the Texas Aggies of future years.

The way was opened when the WAGS division of Dogs for Defense was created. Any owner could purchase a rank for his dog in the WAGS, the cost running from \$1 for a private to \$100 for a general, with similar costs and corresponding designations of naval rank.

The highest was none too good for Reveille and a drive was launched among the students to raise necessary funds. It was agreed at the time that more than \$100 should be collected. Reveille needed a collar on which her rank could be shown, and the remainder would be devoted to having her portrait done in oils.

Miss Marie Haines, local artist with nation-wide recognition, was chosen to paint Rev's portrait. Her work exceeded even the fondest hopes of the cadet sponsors. Temporarily placed in the Library, Rev's painting is viewed at all hours of the day by cadets and other visitors.

"Reveille is more than an animal," stated Dr. Frank C. Bolton, acting president of the Texas A. & M. College. "She is a tradition. To many a homesick freshman, Reveille represents the dog he left at home; that dumb friend that could always be depended on for a wag of the

tail and a friendly bark no matter how dark the clouds or how negligent were other friends. Reveille was a tangible, visible connecting link with a carefree boyhood. She has rendered a service that we have chosen to commemorate."

This commemoration came in the nick of time for Rev died from old age on January 18, of this year. But, although she may be gone, her memory will linger on at Texas A. & M. A brochure is being assembled by the Student's Activities office, which will contain many pictures taken of her and press clippings, in addition to a reproduction of the now historic oil painting.

The entire student body, some 2,600 boys, and the school band marched to Kyle Field to give Reveille an appropriate military funeral. Present also were many Army Specialized Training Program boys, former Texas Aggies who knew Rev when they were in school, and several hundred civilians.

Funeral services for Reveille were held on the football field and she was buried just outside the stadium where the thousands who attend future athletic contests will pass her grave. In time a metal fence will enclose the plot and an appropriate monument will be erected.

### Coast Guard Sea Dog

**A** U. S. Coast Guard cutter swings around, heads out to sea for another trip into the war zone—and with her goes a dog. He stands on the bow sniffing the air like a Gloucesterman smelling rain. He runs aft, pausing to sniff a coiled line, to go below and see what's cookin' with the cooks. Wherever he goes he's welcome.

He livens off watch hours in the fo'c'sle; a gold-laced sleeve in the wardroom mess may furtively slip him a bite; he's something warm to put a hand on during watch on a raw, cold night. He's part of men's lives and is recognized as such; twice within recent months, Coast Guardsmen have been honored for imperilling their lives to rescue a dog. From Singapore to Reykjavik, wherever Coast Guardsmen have gone or are going, he's been or is going. He's as salty as "Blow the man down." A mascot, like a barnacle, is a part of the ship.

When the ship heads into port, he's on the bow again, sniffing the land breeze. Like every sailor, he's content as long as he's out, but when he heads in he gets "channel fever" and can't get ashore fast enough. And so, in the first party of Coast Guardsmen to come ashore you'll probably find him, swaying a little as he gets his land legs.



Official U. S. Marine Corps Photo

### STAND AT EASE, SERGEANT!

Stiffly at attention, Sergeant Too, a three-month-old dog, recently adopted by a Marine Aircraft Group at its South Pacific base, hears First Sergeant Blake Ferris, Detroit, Michigan, read his sergeant's warrant, while his owner, Private Fabian Gutierrez, Monrovia, California, looks on approvingly.

# Animals' Apparel Always Appropriate

By FRANK CIPOLONE

**A**LMOST every living creature under Mother Nature's plan has other creatures which prey upon it. Each must avoid the other in order to survive. The law of the wild, "Eat or be eaten," has applied since time immemorial. Only the strong remain—so goes the old adage.

But animals lacking physical strength resort, of necessity, to other methods in order to live their full span. Perhaps, at some time or another, while on a picnic or a hike in the woods, you strolled along a winding path or trail in complete oblivion, only to stop suddenly, arrested by the thought that somehow you were in the midst of seething activity. Mysterious signs of life, strangely, try as you might, undiscoverable. What made the bushes move, the leaves stir? You hear noise such as is heard only in the woods, peculiar, ominous, but where the source?

Certain birds, insects and animals have been endowed with the power to change color and blend with their surroundings so perfectly and naturally, it is hard to distinguish one from the other.

The tree frog is a notable example of the ability of an animal to adapt its color to its environment. It is able to change its color from a very dark hue to a very light one in about twenty minutes, and so exactly does it agree in color with the surface of a stone, a lichen, or the bark



This remarkable picture of a jaguar, taken by Joseph M. Ramsey, East Aurora, N. Y., illustrates the natural camouflage with which these animals are endowed.

of a tree, that often one is not aware of its presence until he has accidentally placed his hand on it! Common frogs, the type that frequent creeks and swimming holes, are likewise protected by the ability to change color. The transformation takes place, usually, during impending danger. The same is true in the case of certain lizards and snakes capable of rendering themselves very inconspicuous by taking advantage of protective coloration.

The color of our American squirrel is of a reddish brown, usually with a grayish discoloration on the under-portion of the body. It conforms in body color with its American habitation. In England, the same holds true—the squirrel has a ruddy brown tint harmonizing with English countrysides.

With the coming of winter, certain

species of rabbits change color, thereby serving a double purpose. They make the problem of facing the cold much easier, and their white skins blend with the snow, making them poor targets to our would-be hunters.

Probably the most famed example of an animal harmonizing with its surroundings is found in the chameleon. This creature of many hues and colors is originally from Africa, but is now quite common in our Southern states. So closely does this member of the lizard family imitate the picture of nature that it makes itself literally invisible. The chameleon, when frightened, loses or sheds its tail. Perhaps this is the reason Mother Nature, in one of her pitying moods, was more lavish in providing protection for the animal whose apparel is truly always appropriate.

## Speed in Nature . . . . .

By ALAN A. BROWN

**M**AN may pride himself upon his speed records—in swimming, running and other sports—but the fact remains that he is completely outclassed by his animal friends.

Dolphins, one of the fastest fish, have been clocked at about 70 miles an hour, a tremendous speed when one considers that the resistance of water is 700 times that of air. Porpoises, too, are known to attain such speed.

The sailfish, a type of swordfish, probably travels fastest of all, nearly 80 miles an hour. The swordfish has been known to drive its sword through 20 inches of

ship's hard wood, sheathed with copper!

The frigate bird, a sea bird that is also called the "man-of-war" bird, is considered the fastest living creature. It has been timed at a speed of 240 miles an hour. The peregrine falcon can travel at about 200 miles an hour.

The dragon fly is perhaps the fastest of all insects. It can also come to a sudden halt in flight and immediately change its direction with no change in position.

The speeds of many insects seem much faster than they really are. A bumble bee, for example, can't travel faster than 11 miles an hour; the housefly no faster

than five miles, and the mosquito about three.

The Mongolian antelope and the cheetah are the two fastest animals in the world. Dr. Andrews of the American Museum of Natural History has seen the antelopes travel at 60 miles an hour. "They ran so fast we could not see their legs any more than you can see the blades of an electric fan." The cheetah can top 60 miles an hour for a short distance—can even go up to 80 in short bursts.

In decided contrast we might mention the earthworm whose speed has been timed as .002 miles an hour.

## Feathered Hero

**L**OOKING more than a trifle sorry for itself, a storm-battered pigeon entered the Air Force loft at a point on the rugged Scottish coast. For nine hours it had battled with mists and rain to cover 70 miles.

But that gallant pigeon had thus saved the lives of nine airmen, the crew of a giant Catalina flying boat that came to grief in the sea off the storm-bound coast of the Shetland Isles.

Huge seas were running and it was apparent to the crew that what could be done must be done quickly.

The Catalina's wireless was defective. She could receive, but she couldn't transmit. Although those in charge at control 70 miles away well knew that the Catalina was overdue, surface vessels they sent out in search failed to locate her.

Then this wireless order reached the distressed crew of the plane: "Throw out your dinghy and use special transmitter."

The Catalina's crew obeyed, but their signals were still so faint they could not be recognized.

"What about our pigeon?" shouted one of the crew.

"Some hope, with visibility less than 100 yards," said another. But a message was tied to the bird's leg and it was released with the prayers and hopes of the airmen.

Again surface vessels from the control base searched the seas. Again they failed to sight the crew of the Catalina.

Then the bedraggled pigeon who had carried out his mission so faithfully entered the loft at control.

In a few minutes a fast motor launch was speeding to the spot indicated by the airmen's message and soon the distressed crew was brought safely to land.

The pigeon, to whom the men owe their lives is now named, "Saviour." It was bred and presented to the RAF Pigeon Service by Fleming Brothers, at Motherwell, Scotland, in 1941.

## Dictionary of Dogs

By Aletha M. Bonner

### The Bulldog

Bulldogs are built on sturdy scale,  
With turned-up nose, and stubby tail.  
Their coats are brindle, black, or white,  
They are pugnacious in a fight.  
Their ruling factors are, to wit:  
Courage, tenacity, and grit.  
The links in their historic chain,  
Were formed in England, France, and Spain.

# ANIMALORE

**BEAVERS** hold the record in the animal world for under-ice long distance swimming.

**TUNA**—The fish known as a tuna in the Mediterranean and California, is a tunny in the British Isles, while in the Atlantic coastal waters of the United States, it is a great albacore or horse mackerel.

**SLOWWORM** looks like a snake, but it is neither a snake nor a worm. It is a lizard.

**MOURNING DOVES** build more than one nest.

**TADPOLES** of the bull frogs are seven inches long, as large as the adult.

**SNAKES**—It is sometimes said that it is safe to explore the desert at night when most snakes are asleep. This is false as many reptiles do their hunting at night.

**VEGETARIANS**—Most of the largest animals in the world are vegetarians. Elephant, giraffe, gorilla, hippopotamus, rhinoceros, water buffalo and musk ox.

**OBEDIENCE**—In nature, absolute obedience is demanded of the young by their parents and all of their leaders. Anything short of this meets prompt retribution.

**SPIDER** living out its natural life may yield 1,000 feet of silk.

**TOURACOS**, a small family of brightly colored birds living in Africa, have non-washable feathers. Their color is a chemical one and is so soluble in water that when the birds get wet it actually comes out of their feathers.

**ANTS**—When a small fire occurs near a bed of ants, the insects squirt their abdominal fluid on it and put it out.

**GARGANTUA**—It is estimated that the largest animal ever to roam the earth, the baluchitherium, weighed twice as much as the largest elephant.

**SHORE BIRDS**, as a general rule, nest in Canada.

Any unusual or interesting facts concerning animals will be gratefully received. Please mention source. Address—Animalore, Our Dumb Animals, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston 15, Mass.

## Pets Take First Place

By CYRIL G. ROBINSON

**T**HE "OLD MAN" may be listed in the official shipping records as No. 1 aboard ships fighting in the "Battle of the Atlantic," but any seaman will tell you it's the ship's mascot that holds first place in the hearts of all the crew. While the majority of war vessels calling at Halifax, Nova Scotia, have dogs for mascots, others have a wide variety of animals aboard ship.

There was, for instance, a mocking bird named "Mina" aboard a Danish merchant ship which was possessed of so robust a vocabulary that many of its utterances would bear censorship. The same ship had a duck called "Donald," a little yellow chap which one of the ship's crew had picked up while on a stroll at Long Beach, California. Indeed, Donald was so popular with the crew that they included him in all their parties. White mice, rabbits, cats, monkeys, parrots, and even toads have been found aboard vessels calling at the Nova Scotia seaport.

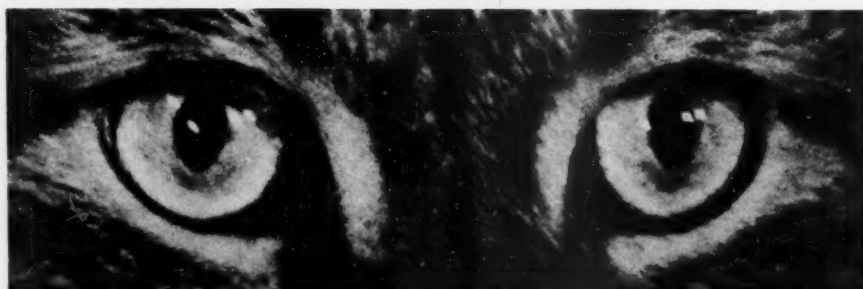
Spaniels and terriers are among the more popular breeds of dogs and many of these have become so "navified" they sleep in miniature hammocks. Recently a West Coast crew claimed the distinction of having the only 'mick sleeping dog in the Royal Canadian Navy, but howls of protest from other R. C. N. ships went up over this boast and pictures were produced to prove that there were others.

A friendly white terrier named "Quick," terrified by a Luftwaffe raid on Liverpool, scampered aboard a merchant ship at the pierside and a member of the crew found him trembling and hiding in a corner aboard the vessel. This dog, just one of many orphans of the blitz, was quickly adopted by the crew.

Seamen think nothing about diving overboard to rescue a cat or a dog which has fallen into the water. A number of sailors and merchant seamen have risked their lives to save their mascots. Wise to the sailor's traditional love for animals, Halifax youngsters frequently arrive at the pier with a stray cat or dog, with the result that the ship gets a new mascot and the youngster a few dollars for the sale.

The attachment of two retired naval officers for a pet bear almost caused a panic several years ago, when the pair entered a Halifax restaurant with the bear on the end of a chain. Screams from waitresses brought the manager, who induced the trio to leave, but not before the bear had partly satisfied his appetite with some tasty morsels on tables within his reach.

Captains encourage rather than frown on the acquisition of ship's mascots. They figure it has much to do with that all-important thing called morale.



The eyes of the cat are so constructed that they can pick up the faintest of light reflection. This has given rise to the belief that cats can see in the dark.

## EYES to See You!

By JEWELL CASEY

**E**YES, either of a person or animal, are the most distinctive of all features. Look at your pet's eyes and the next time you go to the zoo, be sure to note the different kinds of eyes there.

The eyes of the pig are more nearly like those of the human than any other animal.

Most insects have compound eyes—that is, their eyes are made up of a great many eyes set together, similar to cells of a honeycomb, and, in addition to the compound eyes, some insects possess simple eyes, usually three in number, and these are located between the compound eyes.

Flies have two eyes on either side of the head, composed of many thousand six-sided eyes, permitting them to see in every direction. In addition, on top of the head are three simple eyes.

The eyes of a horse are so arranged that they can see forward, backward and at the side.

Snakes do not have eyelids. Thus they can see only forward, with the exception of the mighty anaconda snake. Its eyes are elevated so it can look downward, as well as straight ahead.

Most spiders have four pairs of eyes which are located on top of the head.

The eyes of all fowls are placed at the side of the head in such position that it is impossible for them to see the same object with both eyes at the same time. And another strange thing, they do not have upper eyelids.

Birds can adjust their eyes for either near or far vision much more effectively than people can, and their sight is very keen. It is said that the eagle has the keenest eyesight of any living creature. Indeed, such is the sharpness of its vision that it can see a mouse on the ground even though flying at a great height.

Fish have no eyelids, but the eyeball is movable. They are very nearsighted, inasmuch as the lens of the eye has to be

spherical to permit sight in the water. Since they have no means of closing them, fish sleep with their eyes wide open! Fish found in Carlsbad, Mammoth and other caves are entirely without trace of external eyes.

The turtle has no eyelids, but does have a membrane which comes up from below and entirely covers the eye.

The eyelids of toads are similar to those of birds—they rise from below. When a toad sleeps its eyes are drawn in even with the surface of the head, instead of bulging as when awake.

The eyes of a rabbit are so arranged on the bulge at the side of the head to permit views from both ways.

The giraffe's eyes protrude to such an extent that this queer animal is able to see in all directions without turning its head.

Alligators are equipped with extra sets of eyelids—transparent ones—permitting them to keep their eyes open when under water.

The eyes of a snail, which number up in the thousands, are on stems and work independently of one another—one eye-stem may be drawn back and the other outstretched.

The salamander, newt or eft, has pretty golden eyes, but no eyelids. However, it can pull its eyes back into the head and close the slit, thereby protecting the eyes.

Bats, contrary to popular belief, are not blind, but have a very keen sight both day and night.

The small weak eyes of the mole are covered by overlapping skin which serves as a protection from dirt.

The flounder fish—"poor little thing, has but one eye"—has a most unusual eye arrangement. The first few days of the flounder's life its eyes are set on both sides of the body, but soon the fish starts leaning to one side; the bones of the head start twisting and the eye on the underside migrates to the upper side, finally uniting with its mate.



Appealing eyes of the dog.



The horse can look forward, backward and to the side.



The owl's sight is very keen.



Fish have no eyelids.



Toads' eyes rise from below.



Rabbits look both ways at once.



Acme Photo

## TINY SURVIVOR OF TARAWA

A tiny kitten, that sought refuge under this blasted tank during the bloody fighting on Tarawa, gets a bit of water from a U. S. Marine.



## Statues of Feathered Friends

By JASPER B. SINCLAIR

THE MONUMENT to the seagulls in Temple Square is familiar to Salt Lake City visitors. A slim column topped by a seagull poised for flight, it was erected by the early settlers of Utah in grateful remembrance for the saving of their crops from insect hordes.

The seagull monument is credited with being the first ever erected to a bird. Whatever merit there is in the claim, many similar tributes have since been reared in appreciation of our feathered friends.

There is a statute of a hen at Little Compton, in the State that also gave name to the Rhode Island reds. "President Wilson," a pigeon that had an honorable service record with General Pershing's A. E. F., stands enshrined today in the Smithsonian Institute, at Washington.

The Scottish War Memorial in Edinburgh, a national shrine dedicated to those who gave their lives in the first World War, has forgotten no detail or branch of service. It even remembers the canaries graven in bronze there, in token of their use by engineers and sappers to detect the presence of poison gas.

It may be a mystery why the rooster is so frequently displayed on weather vanes in this country, but it is at least one way to pay tribute to that early rising "alarm clock" bird. Many towns and villages in the northern countries of continental Europe pay similar tribute to the stork, the honored bird among townspeople and peasants alike in those countries.

Guatemalans have paid like honor to the quetzal, the bird of freedom, that is the national emblem of that Central American republic. The quetzal also decorates many of Guatemala's coins and postage stamps.

Even a mythical bird can receive its share of attention at times. The great Tower of the Sun at the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition was surmounted by a five-ton phoenix—the bird that rises from its own ashes every 500 years, according to the mythology of ancient Greeks and Romans.

The American bald eagle, of course, is commonly portrayed in bronze or stone in many cities throughout the United States. In most instances our national emblem appears thus with wings outspread in flight.

## Cats' Cafeteria

By CICELY C. MELLOR

EVERY evening, around cooking time, a number of cats appear and sit on the terrace near my kitchen window. They always follow one another through a hole in the fence which divides our yard from the one next door.

There are four or five of them, including two females. The toms apparently operate under a flag of truce during the supper hour. After a while, if there is nothing in the saucer, the leader—a huge white animal with orange ears and tail—rises with great dignity and proceeds towards the adjoining house.

Sometimes when they are my supper guests they will suddenly go rigid, listening. Then, forsaking the viands offered, they race madly in the direction of noises which to them are indicative of more variety—possibly a piece of liver! Presently they filter back to finish what is on the menu here.

The queens, never far off, are always first at "the table." But their men folks, arriving singly from their neighborhood stamping grounds, muscle in rudely, ignoring the rule of "first come, first served." Starting with the house on the corner, they systematically cadge their way down the block, going from one back garden to the other.

Their human friends aid and abet this beggary by contributing bits of meat, fish, and cooked vegetable scraps. People in ground-floor homes put out fresh water and milk. In this way, all the cats get a decent meal and everyone who has anything suitable is glad to throw it to them. One woman even lets down a shallow pan of dainties on a rope from an upstairs window. When the cats hear the pan clanking against the wall they drop everything and run to it.

These cats are not the pets of any one person. We call them community cats, as so many neighbors help them in a practical way. The animals are in fine condition; keep themselves clean and enjoy their freedom to the full.

Perhaps the Cat Cafeteria idea will solve the destitute cat problem on your street.

## Scottie Says:

## "Those Camera Addicts!"



I can't understand it; I've thought all I can,  
Why man wants to make a dog look like a man!  
A day doesn't pass . . . a night never goes,  
But my master will "shoot" me in some weird pose.  
I stand on a ladder, a fence, or a throne,  
Dolled up in more costumes than you've ever known.  
I wear a tuxedo, spats, top hat and cane,  
Smoke big, black cigars, drink milk or champagne.  
I'm a hobo, a soldier, a banker, a worker,  
A SPAR or a WAVE or a young soda jerker.  
I stare into high-powered lamps till I'm groggie,  
While I'm pictured as everything else but a doggie!

—Carsten Ahrens

# Starlings Complete Their "Conquest" of America

By KENNETH D. MORRISON

**I**F YOU see a black bird with a long yellow bill, a stubby tail and a pugnacious disposition, you can be certain that you've just observed the European Starling.

Although it was not reported in Minnesota, for example, until 1929, the starling is now far from a rarity in the mid-west. This "undesirable alien" has spread throughout the central states and must be listed as a common resident.

The trouble all started when Eugene Schieffelin of New York City became lonesome for the starlings he had enjoyed in Europe. If only he had known how often bird and animal transplants turn out to be the worst kind of pests when moved from their native environment, he would certainly have left the starlings in the Old World. But Schieffelin was determined. After many unsuccessful importations, 160 birds finally established themselves in New York City's Central Park in 1890. Their spread was slow at first, but by 1916 they had crossed the Appalachian mountains. Since that time the black interlopers have pushed their way across prairie and mountain and have just recently been reported in eastern California.

A study of the spread of the starling reveals that the bird's increase in population is gradual for the first ten to fifteen years after its appearance in a locality. Then there is a sharp rise for a few years, followed by a slowing up of the increase rate and apparent stabilization by the twenty-fifth to thirtieth year. The probability, according to Dr. W. J. Breckenridge of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History, is that the starlings will increase considerably more in the central states before the population becomes stabilized. He even predicts that they will invade the loops of western cities and become equally as raucous and pestiferous as their relatives in eastern cities where municipal authorities have tried everything from Roman candles to fire hose to disperse the starlings from their roosts—and usually without success.

Although the starlings have spread over much of the continent, the English sparrows, also aliens, did a faster job of becoming entrenched pests. Forty years after their introduction in 1850, the sparrows had completed their conquest of America, whereas the spread of the starlings is still far from complete more than fifty years after their release in Central Park.

Its overbearing, pugnacious nature is one of the reasons for the starling's success in its adopted land, for it easily drives out and usurps the nesting places of more desirable native birds, such as woodpeckers, bluebirds and purple martins. The newcomer's record is not all black, however. Its feeding habits are largely beneficial, as most of its food consists of harmful insects and grubs.

The starling can be distinguished from other similar appearing blackbirds by its bill, tail, and flight. No other blackbird has a yellow bill nor a stubby tail, and the swift, sustained flight of the starling is in marked contrast to the undulating movement of our native blackbirds. After the breeding season, the starling's yellow bill darkens until it is nearly black and in the fall the iridescent purple-greenish feathers become



tipped with white, giving the birds a mottled appearance during the winter months.

Casual observers consider the "song" of the starling to be a clear whistle or a rasping note of alarm. Few people realize that the bird is an adept mimic, that it can repeat the call of the pewee, bluebird or redwing to perfection. E. H. Forbush lists 38 birds that are imitated by the starling, and adds that it can bark like a dog and mew like a cat.

Whether we like it or not, that versatile but pesky blackcoat—the starling—has completed its "conquest" of America.

## For Him and His Dog

By GRACE MEREDITH

*By streets blacked-out, on toward the unlit park,  
In silence without even one quick bark:  
The Irish-setter guided in the dark,  
And hesitated once, it seemed, to think:  
Then led on grass and leaves turned copper-pink,  
To reach the fountain where he stopped to drink—*

*Raising his red-brown head, he pointed straight  
Another way back toward the open gate,  
That fronts the house where he was told to wait—  
He moved through quiet, and his rhythmic tread  
Gave steady promise, like the growing spread  
Of stars, perhaps a million overhead—*

*They walked night-after-night not long ago,  
In any season's moonlight, rain or snow,  
With livened faith man and his dog can know—  
The day his master left for strange new ways,  
"Be good," he said, "and wait—" with trust that stays,  
His stalwart dog remembers—and obeys.*



1. These chicks (only a few days old) are striking in their beautiful striped coats.



2. An aquatic bird, found mostly about the Antarctic continent, Falkland Islands and New Zealand.

## Unusu

**Y**OU all know such common birds as the chicken, the duck, the goose, and others you see so often, but are there any others here? Read the descriptions and see if you can find the line to see if you were right.

1. Next to the ostrich, these are the tallest birds they wear a protective dress of feathers. Found in Australia's forest country. As the birds grow older, the feathers grow (from five to seven feet in height). They have no tails and are incapable of flying. They are swimmers.

2. Another flightless bird, the penguin, is known for fighting and walking while standing on its flippers. Found about the Antarctic continent, Falkland Islands. In their way on ice either by waddling or by sliding. A playful fellow, it enjoys nothing better than to play with its young.

3. Allied to the kingfishers, the pelicans have a very large beak. Found in Africa, Malay Peninsula, and elsewhere in flocks. Their food consists chiefly of fish. Their necks entirely without feathers and they are unable to fly.

4. Species of this long-necked bird are found in Africa, Asia and Australia. It is a very common bird. It chiefly frequents the vicinity of water. Its birds usually nest in trees, in common with the heron.

4. Heron

3. Hornbill

3. This ostrich is named for its curious gait on its long legs.

3. This odd bird is named from a curious growth on its beak.



4. Long-necked, long-legged, wading birds.

## usual Bird Life

Common birds as the robin, sparrow, bluebird, crow and the many others, but are you familiar with the uncommon varieties shown here? Try to name them and see if you can guess their names. Then look at the bottom of the page.

These are the largest living birds known to naturalists. As young birds they are dressed in beautiful stripes which blend with the long grass of the marshes. As the birds grow, the stripes gradually disappear and when fully grown (about 6 feet in height) they are of a uniform grayish-brown. These birds are capable of flight, although they are very fast of foot and are expert waders.

This bird, this odd creature uses its wings as paddles in the water while on land. It is primarily an aquatic bird found mostly in the Falkland Islands and New Zealand. Many of this species make a waddling upright or flat on their bellies, kicking their legs. A waddle is nothing better than taking joy rides on cakes of floating ice.

As a fisher, this bird is named from a curious horny growth on its beak. In the Malay Archipelago and southeastern Asia, these creatures live on a diet consisting chiefly of fruit and seeds. In color they are black and white, with red eyes and beaks, a vivid yellow with scarlet and black markings.

Long-necked, long-legged, wading birds are found in Europe, America, and Australia. Its long tapering bill has a sharp point and keen cutting edge. It is found in the vicinity of water, feeding mostly on aquatic animals. These birds live in communities.

Answers: 1. Emu 2. Penguin 3. Horned Grebe



# EDITORIALS

## Home Front Outrage

**I**N a recent issue of *Life*, the editors called attention, most graphically, to the outrageous brutality practiced by certain citizens of Holmes County, Ohio, in "so-called" fox hunting. Our Society is deeply indebted to *Life* for its forthright portrayal. The following letter of approbation was sent to the editor by our President, Dr. Francis H. Rowley:

The Humane Societies of this country owe *LIFE* a real debt for its publishing of the outrageous cruelties involved in the fox-hunting reported by *LIFE* in the current issue. It seems incredible that in any state in this Union, public opinion would have allowed anything of that sort to happen.

It is devoutly to be hoped that *LIFE'S* story of this disgraceful affair, which apparently has been going on for some time, will put an end to any such atrocity for the future.

Letters were also sent to Ohio's Governor, John W. Bricker, and to three of the leading animal protection societies in that state, urging that everything possible be done to eliminate such practices.

Letters have been received, not only from citizens of Massachusetts, but from various parts of the country, registering disapproval. We quote excerpts from some of these letters as an indication of public opinion.

Can't some organization step in and stop such a disgraceful and despicable situation from continuing? I understand those brave, virile people are planning bigger hunts next year. Even women and children seem to be enjoying the orgy.

It was revolting to see an 11-year-old boy finally beating the poor animal to death amid the cheers of the crowd. What kind of man will develop from such encouragement?

It is utterly disgusting to see men, women and children engaged in such cowardly pastimes. What a training these children are getting in cruelty.

It all savors so of inhuman cruelty and portends such awful possibilities for the future of the citizens in that section of our country.

The trend of all the letters received has been the same—a thorough hatred of the cruelty practiced on a helpless animal and anxiety lest American citizens develop the brutal tendencies which characterize our present enemies at war.

We heartily agree with these views and pledge ourselves to do everything possible to make certain that there will be no repetition of this brutal exhibition.

## Easter Pets

**I**T IS something of a paradox that the Easter season—that time of the year when all Christianity should naturally be turning to thoughts of kindness and compassion—should be chosen especially by commercial interests for the sale of tiny members of the animal kingdom as pets for children. Thus, we have in a season set aside for rejoicing in the Christian world, a time when thoughtless parents and tradesmen join in a business often resulting in torture and death.

Each year we ask dealers not to sell baby chicks, ducklings or bunnies as pets; each year we urge parents to refrain from buying these living creatures for their children to fondle and then discard. It is all too easy to imagine the suffering of these tiny babies, handled by inexperienced clerks in retail stores. They are subjected to food and temperatures ill-suited to their needs and when purchased as pets, they invariably fall into the hands of persons who do not know how to handle or care for them.

Parents! If you are thinking of your children's ultimate good, take the money you would spend for chicks or bunnies and buy defense stamps. You will be helping your government and at the same time establishing a nest egg for the children.

Our Government has asked that a greater number of fowl be raised for the production of eggs and meat. Stores which have never before handled chicks are dealing in them now, but it should be pointed out to these establishments that the chicks should not be sold in lots of less than twelve unless good evidence is given that the purchase is for legitimate purposes—the raising of poultry. The use of chicks for other than the production of food would militate against our war effort and conservation of necessary food.

So for both humanitarian and conservation reasons we earnestly ask that the traffic in Easter toys be ended.



It is an established fact that the training of the intellect alone is not sufficient. Nothing in this world can be truer than that the training of the head, without the training of the heart, simply increases one's power for evil.

RALPH WALDO TRINE

## Victory Garden Problems

**I**T IS not too early in the year for Americans to start planning for their spring gardening ventures. The overwhelming success last year has proved beyond a doubt that these gardens helped tremendously in the conservation of food and the difficult task of feeding families under our present rationing system.

Gardeners grumble, and perhaps rightly so, at the depredations of animals. It is annoying, to say the least, to find that dogs have run through the beds, trampling down the tiny shoots or that rabbits have invaded the garden to nibble at the tender greens.

This year, we ask that gardeners be prepared for such invaders. There is no necessity for shooting, trapping or cruel treatment of these trespassers. After all, they are only following their natural instincts. We especially ask that poisoning be not attempted. Such a campaign usually serves only in bringing about the death of neighborhood pets and does not seem to affect the real marauders.

Plan now to enclose your garden by a simple fence of chicken wire or some other suitable material. This will solve your problem and will not cause suffering to helpless animals.

## PHOTO CONTEST

In a search for "story-telling pictures," we are announcing our annual photographic contest to end June 30, 1944.

Cash prizes amounting to \$95 and ten additional prizes of subscriptions to *OUR DUMB ANIMALS* are offered for clear, outstanding photographs of wild or domestic animals and birds.

The contest is open to all, either professional or amateur, but entries will be accepted only from those who have taken the photographs.

### PRIZES

First Prize .....	\$25.00
Second Prize .....	15.00
Third Prize .....	5.00
Ten \$3.00 prizes	
Ten \$2.00 prizes	

Write to Contest Editor, 180 Longwood Ave., Boston 15, Mass., for further details.

## Retired Workers' Fund

WE are receiving gifts to the American Humane Education Society as a trust fund, the interest to be used for the benefit of field missionaries and others who have spent their lives in promoting humane education. Already several cases have come to our attention and are being relieved in this way. We will welcome your contribution to this fund.

Please make checks payable to Albert A. Pollard, Treasurer, American Humane Education Society, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston, and specify that the amount contributed is for the Humane Education Trust Fund.

## Liberal Annuity Rates

## ADVANTAGES

No coupons to clip, no papers to sign and mail. You simply receive your checks at stated intervals—that's all there is to it.

Annuity agreements are frequently used to provide for one's or another's future years.

It is no experiment. There is no anxiety. No fluctuations in rate of income. No waste of your estate by a will contest.

A pamphlet giving necessary information gladly sent upon request.

The Massachusetts S. P. C. A., or the American Humane Education Society, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston 15.

The management of our invested funds is a guarantee of the security of these Life Annuities.

#### RATES OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN HUMANE EDUCATION SOCIETY OR THE MASSACHUSETTS S. P. C. A.

Active Life	\$100 00	Active Annual	\$10 00
Associate Life	50 00	Associate Annual	5 00
Sustaining Life	20 00	Annual	1 00
Children's			\$0 75

Checks and other payments may be sent to ALBERT A. POLLARD, Treasurer, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston 15.

## HOSPITAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY

## At 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston 15

Cases entered in Hospital	777
Cases entered in Dispensary	1,342
Operations	303

## At Springfield Branch, 53 Bliss Street

Cases entered in Hospital	259
Cases entered in Dispensary	621
Operations	110

## At Attleboro Clinic, 3 Commonwealth Ave.

Cases entered	91
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## Totals

Hospital cases since opening	
Mar. 1, 1915	230,083
Dispensary cases	576,088
Total	806,171

#### FEBRUARY REPORT OF THE OFFICERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS S. P. C. A., WITH HEADQUARTERS AT BOSTON, METHUEN, SPRINGFIELD, PITTSFIELD, ATTLEBORO, WENHAM, HYANNIS, WORCESTER, FITCHBURG, NORTHAMPTON, HAVERHILL, HOLYOKE, ATHOL, COVERING THE ENTIRE STATE.

Miles traveled by humane officers	13,779
Cases investigated	229
Animals examined	4,521
Animals placed in homes	200
Lost animals restored to owners	71
Number of prosecutions	12
Number of convictions	12
Convicted for being present at cockfight	52
Horses taken from work	5
Horses humanely put to sleep	22
Small animals humanely put to sleep	1,145
Horse auctions attended	15

## Stockyards and Abattoirs

Animals inspected	56,159
Cattle, swine and sheep humanely put to sleep	61

## Veterinary Column

THERE are a few common ear diseases, which if recognized and cared for in their early stages, would eliminate grief and pain. One of these is the hematoma, a large "blood blister." The small blood vessels become ruptured and the blood flows out into the surrounding tissue. The animal holds his head to the side, the affected ear down, and frequently shakes his head. The ear is very sensitive to the touch, and a distinct bulging of the surface is noted. Immediate treatment is required. The longer the condition is neglected, the more severe it becomes. Shaking the head and scratching the ear only aggravate the hematoma. Treatment should be handled by a veterinarian in all cases. It is necessary to anesthetize the animal, incise the ear to drain the blood, and stitch (suture) the incision. After-care is important, also. The ear should be kept bandaged tightly to the head and frequent dressings are advisable. In most cases the prognosis is favorable.

A rather common ear problem, especially in dogs with long pendulous ears, is *otitis externa* or *auricular catarrh*. There are a variety of causes. Some of the more common ones are (a) accumulations of cerumen (wax), dirt and moisture. These substances cause irritation, resulting in inflammation and even infection. (b) Retention of debris from acute attacks will lead to further irritation, resulting in the chronic form of the disease with considerable thickening of the tissues. (c) In young animals the condition is sometimes associated with distemper. (d) The presence of ear parasites (mites) will often bring about the irritation. This cause can be very severe, sometimes the mites work so far into the ear canal as to cause the animal loss of equilibrium. (e) Auricular catarrh is often found in cases with chronic eczema.

The symptoms most often noted are almost constant shaking and scratching of the ears. The animal is extremely restless and rubs his ears along the rugs and furniture. Along the margins of the ears is noticed a bloody discharge. In the later stages there may be pus formation and a "running" of the ears.

This condition, again, should be treated by your veterinarian. However, the pet owner can do much to prevent the occurrence of auricular catarrh. Frequent examination of the ears and keeping the ear free of dirt and wax will do much toward its prevention. Also, when bathing the dog or cat it will be beneficial to stuff large pieces of absorbent cotton into the ears. This will prevent water and soap entering deep into the ear canal and remaining there. Use a large enough piece of cotton so that it will not work down into the ear.

N. L. G., Veterinary Dept.  
Angell Animal Hospital

## TO OUR FRIENDS

In making your will, kindly bear in mind that the corporate title of our Society is "The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals"; that it is the second incorporated (March, 1868) Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in the country, and that it has no connection with any other similar Society.

Any bequest especially intended for the benefit of the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital, should, nevertheless, be made to the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals "for the use of the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital," as the Hospital is not incorporated but is the property of that Society and is conducted by it.

## FORM OF BEQUEST

I give to The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (or to the American Humane Education Society), the sum of ..... dollars, (or, if other property, describe the property).

The Society's address is 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston 15, Mass. Information and advice will be given gladly.



Executive Vice-President Eric H. Hansen presents medal to Joseph F. Kelly, Jr.

## Hero Awarded Medal

THE Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals recently honored Joseph F. Kelly, Jr., 15, of Watertown, Mass., by presenting him with a beautiful bronze humane medal for his heroic deed in saving the life of a mongrel dog that was trapped in the frigid waters of the Charles River by floating ice cakes. Young Kelly, at the risk of his own life, made his way through rotting ice and swam to the rescue of the animal.

Joseph, a member of the junior class of St. Patrick's High School in Watertown, was walking across the North Beacon Street bridge when he saw the dog walking on the ice about 15 feet from shore. As he was watching, he saw the dog suddenly fall through the ice and try frantically to pull himself back to safety. Kelly watched the dog try again and again, but the ice crumbled beneath him each time and he realized that the animal was rapidly losing his strength.

Without an instant's delay the lad ran down the bank of the river and found a Metropolitan District Commission rowboat, into which he jumped and poled his way across the ice in the direction of the dog. As he neared the open water, he stepped from the boat in an effort to grasp the dog, and as he did so the ice gave beneath him and he fell into the water.

Instead of giving way to his natural instinct for self-preservation, however, the boy swam the short distance to the dog, grasped him by the collar and swam

back to the boat, into which he finally managed to lift the dog. Then he hauled himself in and poled the boat back to shore. Upon reaching land, the rescued canine promptly raced away.

Mr. Eric H. Hansen, Executive Vice-President of the Society, who made the award, lauded the boy for his outstanding humane act, which, Kelly declared, was prompted by his keen interest in all animal life.

### Cat from Pearl Harbor

WITH everything but a Hawaiian lei to accompany him on his long journey from Pearl Harbor, "Blackie," a three-year-old cat, arrived recently for a check-up at our Hospital. Blackie is the pet of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Schroedel and preceded them to their home in Melrose.

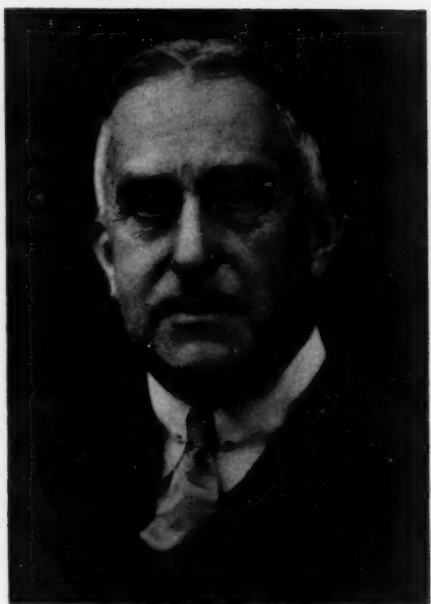
The specially designed, gable-roofed house that brought Blackie to the East Coast, stands over two feet high, is three feet long and two feet wide, and is adaptable for use in hot and cold weather, having removable screens for warm climates and sliding windows for cooler temperatures.

Among the many labels and shipping tags that adorned the outside of the cat's abode, was one bearing the following instructions: "My name is Blackie. I am three years old and I have never been separated from my owners before. I do not like to be handled, but I do like to be talked to. I like to bed in the morning and evening. I am not especially fond of canned food, but will try to eat it. I am fond of canned milk and I like one vitamin tablet each day. Please break my vitamin tablet in pieces so I will not choke on it. Thank you for your kindness to me. Blackie."

Needless to say, this coal-black member of the feline species was very happy when he arrived in Boston and it was not long before he was purring his appreciation of the kindly treatment he received from the nurses and veterinary staff at the Hospital. They seemed to have little difficulty in making the much-traveled cat feel right at home.



"Blackie," from Pearl Harbor, surrenders himself happily to Nurse Kathleen Driscoll.



JOHN R. MACOMBER

### Trustee Honored

**F**RRIENDS and business associates gathered at the Union Club, Boston, on March 9, to pay honor to one of our Trustees, John R. Macomber, Chairman of the Board, First Boston Corporation. Mr. Macomber started his business career fifty years ago and this golden anniversary was celebrated by the presentation of a loving cup, suitably inscribed with brief references to his activities in business, civic and sporting fields. In addition, the cup bore the names of all those attending the dinner.

Representing our Society were Dr. Francis H. Rowley and Executive Vice-President Eric H. Hansen. On this occasion, Dr. Rowley, with his inimitable manner and apt phrasing, presented to Mr. Macomber a plaque, inscribed as follows:

**JOHN R. MACOMBER**

In grateful recognition of his 26 years of service as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Society's Permanent Funds.

1944



### Society Gives Service

**P**EOPLE too often think of our Society as a prosecuting agency and picture our officers as grim ogres who delight in making arrests. As a matter of fact, prosecution is our last recourse and many times during a month we are called upon to investigate cases requiring great tact and executive ability in straightening out the situation.

A case in point occurred recently when a call was received from the Chief of Police, at Wilmington, Massachusetts, who reported that stock belonging to a resident of that town was suffering from

lack of attention. Officers Herman N. Dean and J. Robert Smith were immediately dispatched to the scene and investigation showed that the owner of the stock had been taken sick and was in the Tewksbury Hospital. Two people, in the meantime, had agreed to care for the animals, but had failed.

The first action taken by our officers was the feeding and watering of the stock and milking the cow. Only after the animals were properly cared for did they interview the owner, whom they found being prepared for a transfer to the Pondville State Hospital.

As it seemed evident that the owner would be absent for some time, our officers obtained written permission from him to dispose of the stock. They then called a dealer in Middleton, who came with a truck, removing a cow, a heifer, a bull calf, three goats, one kid, a hog, 104 fowl and 300 pounds of grain. These items he sold on commission and made a return to the owner.

Our officers, recognizing that here was a case for public service and animal protection, handled the affair with humanness and dispatch, earning the gratitude and respect of all concerned.

### Cockfight Raided

**O**NE of the most spectacular cases within the past few months was reported by our County Prosecuting Officer in Worcester, Harry C. Smith. Accompanied by two state police officers and Deputy Sheriff Dumas, of Sturbridge, Mr. Smith raided the site of a cockfight. The officers found about 60 persons watching the fight which was taking place in the cellar of a farm house near Sturbridge.

A few of the patrons escaped through a cellar window, but the officers arrested 52 onlookers and seized 29 fighting cocks and a large amount of gear. The prisoners were transported to the Southbridge Police Station where they put up bail and were released for later trial.

The judge ordered the birds killed in accordance with the law and this was done by Mr. Smith in the presence of five witnesses.

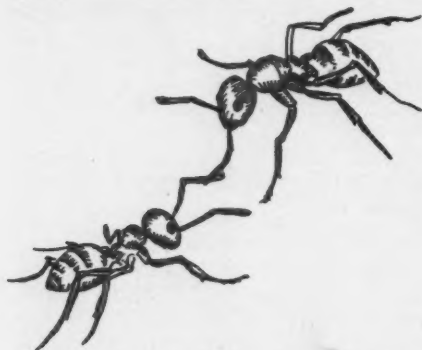
At the subsequent hearing, the owner of the cocks was fined \$25 and others paid fines of \$5 each when they pleaded guilty of attending the fight.



### FELINE MASCOTS EXPERIENCE HAPPY REUNION

When it recently became necessary to hospitalize "Whitey," feline mascot of the U. S. FRIGATE "CONSTITUTION," at the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital, her steadfast companion, "Butch," rebelled at the idea of being separated from his loyal pal. But now "Whitey" is back to normal once more, and is shown ready to leave the Hospital, accompanied by Seaman First Class Thomas Creeley (left), holding "Butch," and Seaman First Class George Boardman with "Whitey."

### Odd Facts in Rime



#### How the Ants Talk

By CARROLL VAN COURT

The ants can talk like you and I,  
And tell each other news;  
They have a way that's all their own,  
Of saying what they choose.

They put their little feelers on  
The ones they want to tell  
The news about good food nearby;  
That's why they work so well!



#### Message to Housewives

**P**ERCY" left the bridge of a merchant ship at sea and flew to London with a message from the men of the Merchant Navy to the housewives of Britain.

Percy, one of the best birds in the Army Pigeon Service, has been on active service for two years.

He arrived with the message at London's first wartime Service Pigeon show and auction of birds held in aid of the Merchant Navy Comforts Service at the Drill Hall, Buckingham Gate, S. W.

The message stated: "On the eve of what might prove to be the last Christmas of the war, we men of the Merchant Navy send greeting to the housewives of Britain.

"We've just brought some beef and mutton home—sorry it could not be turkeys this time, but we want you women at home to know how much we admire the way you have kept going through more than four years of war."

Percy was presented with a gold badge tied around his neck with pale blue ribbon.

Looking on approvingly was "White Vision," who a short while ago was instrumental in saving ten men, the crew of a Catalina flying boat, which came down in northern waters.

Beside her was "Winkie," who recently saved the crew of a bomber which crashed at sea.

—Sunday Dispatch Reporter

## ANIMAL LAND

Hollywood's newest glamour girl is "Lassie," collie star of the movie, "Lassie Come Home." Lassie has a five-year contract at a neat figure. And the really funny part is that, while she has become famous as a "she," she is actually a "he."

*The Pacific University plans to send packets of western fleas to museums and universities throughout the world, not only in the interests of entomology, but as ambassadors of goodwill. The idea may make nations love each other, but you can wager your week's salary that the Pacific University will be mighty unpopular with foreign dogs.*

A Washington housewife went to the market the other day and purchased a hen for the usual purpose. Upon getting the bird home a mutual friendship sprang up between her and the woman's little daughter, Mary Anne. Now the hen is called Chicadee, drinks coffee, eats toast and rides around the Capital streets in a baby carriage. Each afternoon she takes a nap with her small mistress and neither will retire without the other.

*A New York woman, who has a skunk which she calls Ginger, claims that these little fellows aren't "shiftless" at all. Ginger's owner says that she is gentle, affectionate, obedient and very clean. She is not at all fussy about her "vittles" and is compatible with a Boston terrier and a Persian cat. According to her mistress, Ginger also has a rare sense of humor, loving to scare visitors.*

Four branches of the United States Army collaborated in saving the life of Bambi, a pony who kicked a jeep somewhere in Great Britain. The quartermaster, ordnance, medical and veterinary departments cooperated in the job of X-raying, making a special splint, administering anesthesia and setting a badly broken leg.

*A few weeks ago Stanley Harbor, in the Falkland Islands, was the scene of a celebration that was unique in both its magnitude and purpose. It was in honor of a dolphin, that saved a two-year-old baby girl from drowning, by swimming her to a rescue ship.*

Sixteen dogs of the Army K-9 Corps, on patrol along the freezing beaches of Long Island, are now wearing tailor-made blankets, thanks to a nearby Red Cross chapter.

—Jack Pearson

### Questions

By BURLINGHAM SCHURR

**T**HE GIANT OAK is the creation of a little acorn. What a strange object, the acorn! How insignificant the nut appears, yet what a mighty force is encased in its shell. Who can tell what that force is? We do know there is life within the acorn—mighty, powerful strength, indescribable energy.

Up through the stem of plants courses that which paints the flowers in vivid colors. Each blossom of the various plants has its own identifying structure and hue. There is no mistaking the fragrance of various species of flowers, and nature does not err in giving to flowers their respective perfume.

"Consider the lilies"—the flowers, how they grow. Partake deeply of the sweet fragrance of the blossoms, then tear the flower apart petal by petal and try to find the fragrance. One cannot see it, but it is there. Slit the stem and try to get a self-satisfying explanation as to how the wonderful coloring got into the blossom. Dig down into the roots. What is the mysterious force back of it?

Nature performs a multitude of things that are beyond the understanding of man. We see in an albino, an occurrence which baffles science in giving any indisputable evidence as to why such a thing happens. Among a nest of red squirrels, one may be pure white with pink eyes. Why is it so? A chipmunk can be glossy, coal-black without a suggestion of a stripe on its back or a single hair to show its normal coloring, yet its brothers and sisters will be just ordinary, common chipmunks. In screech owls, there is what is termed a red phase and a gray phase, two distinct colorings, and in no way does this denote sex. In the North American rattlesnake, or Timber rattlesnake, called also Banded rattlesnake, there is a black phase and a yellow phase, a pronounced difference in coloring.

But be that as it may, the Law of Nature carries on year following year, and the reproduction of life and the progress of life mystifies man in many instances, yet man cannot fail to bow to the fact that the wonderwork of Creation is for his elevation. May man exercise his privilege to do those things that will make life better because he lives.

Plant trees, grow forests, protect birds and wildlife, be kind to animals and all creatures. Realize how truly wonderful life is and how glorious it is to be a part of the living world!

# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## Little Fawn's Affection

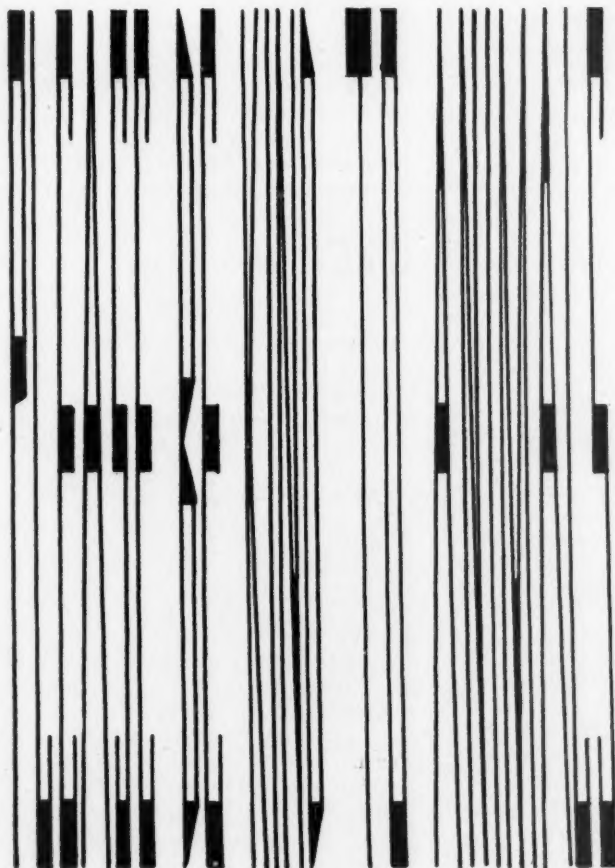
**T**HAT many wild animals instinctively become tame and affectionate when placed in association with human beings has been demonstrated time and again, and one instance of such characteristic attitude was that exhibited by a little fawn toward a young boy.

The boy, whose name is Neil Hollan and who lives at Fowlerton, Texas, was given the little fawn by his father, who found the young deer half starved after its mother had evidently been killed by a mountain lion.

Proper feeding and care soon put the fawn in good condition, and as it grew older it became devotedly attached to the boy. It would follow him around the house; go to town with him; even follow him to school.

So great was the attachment of the deer for its boyish owner it would even seek out the boy when he was asleep and climb up on the bed and lie down beside him.

—O. W. Nolen



The above is our Kindness Week plea. Practice it every day of the year. In case you can't make it out, tip the page up, holding the bottom of the page level with the eye.

## Answers to Animal Facts and Animal Fiction

1. True. The elasticity of their body walls and the fact that they have an extra bone hinging the upper to the lower jaw permit this. The lower jaw also separates at the middle of its front edge and spreads apart sidewise.
2. False. The cow that has lost her cud is sick. The illness may be one of several in cause but the wise owner employs a veterinary instead of annoying her with old rags.
3. True. A pig likes to wallow in the mud as a cooling measure. But it much prefers clean mud to the filth in which it is too often kept.
4. True. Frogs are extremely elusive.
5. False. The elephant's tread is almost silent and it goes through the forest with scarcely the breaking of a twig.
6. False. Bob Whites sleep in a circle with the heads pointing out and the tails are together. Then if disturbed each goes in a different direction—a safety device.
7. True. The black bear, unless forced to defend its young, always prefers to slide away rather than fight.
8. False. The dirt taken out from its hole is all carried away from the front entrance, presumably in the same big cheek pouches which it uses for baskets to gather in its winter stores.
9. True. When a toad wants a drink it stretches itself out in shallow water and absorbs the moisture through its skin. It would waste away and die in a short time if kept in a dry atmosphere.
10. False. Birds migrate for food rather than to escape the cold. Insectivorous birds are forced to migrate. It is only those which have a food supply to their liking that remain in the North.
11. False. The "Hudson Seal" is not from a special kind of seal. It is the product of the homely muskrat. In preparing the skins for commerce the long, coarse outer hairs are removed, leaving a soft fine fur which is dyed and brings a big price.
12. True. The bird patters on top of the water until it can get power to fly.
13. True. Catnip, a strong-scented herb, is liked by all members of the cat family.
14. False. The turtle drops mother care when she drops her eggs, and they are the prey of numerous enemies.
15. True. The passenger pigeon, the last one of these birds that went in flocks of millions, died in a Cincinnati Zoo in 1914.

—Bessie L. Putnam

## The Band of Mercy or Junior Humane League

DR. FRANCIS H. ROWLEY, President  
ERIC H. HANSEN, Executive Vice-President  
WILLIAM A. SWALLOW, Secretary

### PLEDGE

I will try to be kind to all living creatures and try to protect them from cruel usage.

The American Humane Education Society will send to every person who forms a Band of Mercy of thirty members, and sends the name chosen for the Band and the name and post-office address of the president who has been duly elected, special Band of Mercy literature and a gilt badge for the president.

### NEW BANDS OF MERCY

Two hundred and twenty-five Bands of Mercy were organized during February. These were distributed as follows:

Pennsylvania	116
Virginia	44
Georgia	33
Florida	30
Maine	1
Rhode Island	1

Total number Bands of Mercy organized by Parent-American Society, 267,718.

### SUMMARY OF FIELD WORK

Number of addresses made, 98  
Number of persons in audiences, 23,075

## The "Oranges"

By JEMIMA REMINGTON

THE TROUBLE is that no one would believe it, without a photograph. But we assure the general public, believe it or not, that we saw it with our own eyes.

It was early morning and we were out for a stroll, on the farm. Across the driveway stalked Honey, our bachelor cat, big, blasé and golden. Behind him marched D'Arcy, tabby flapper; behind her ran two mice, all in single file about two feet apart. The mice, with tails straight out, were apparently hurrying home from a night in the oat field across the way. It looked like an organized procession, but no one of the participants paid the slightest attention to the others. Each one was attending to his or her own business in the world and for the time being was alone. Probably the mice considered each other. They may have been husband and wife, or perhaps engaged, but they had learned, in their short careers, that the end of the procession is often the safest spot.

Bunnie, the orange Barn Belle, presented the farm with four, beautifully marked kittens. Syrup,—also orange in color, and who leads a gay Lothario sort of life, admits that they resemble him but further than that he will not go.

When the Guest — who sometimes wears a bright blue housedress and sometimes a bright green camping suit—goes walking up the lonely and lovely road, the kittens, dubbed the "Oranges," insist upon going, too. If she slips away without them she is apt to hear wild yells behind her, which mean, "Wait for us! Wait for us!" On the blue dress evenings the affair closely resembles an Orange Walk. On the green suit evenings it presents the colorful gaiety of a circus procession. Not the least entertaining part of the fun is the astonished expressions on the faces of the motorists who very occasionally traverse the road. The masculine travelers look as if wondering if they really see it, while the ladies view the show with delighted grins. Under a little moon that curves like a Gurkha's knife in the sky above the dark trees, the "Oranges" are at their best. They are in their native element, leaping high in the air one moment, stalking like tigers the next; shinnying up trees to pose like miniature pumas before sliding down again. The exquisite call of a whip-poorwill; the tremulous cry of a 'coon looking upon forbidden corn; the cling-clang of distant cowbells; the hoot of an owl — all these sounds are a perfectly harmonious accompaniment to the gay abandon of the dancing, orange sprites. They are part of the dim mystery of the night, in color harmony with the golden-rod and the drifting yellow leaves. Now and then a soft fur coat brushes a bare brown leg and a brief purr says happily, "Aren't we having a lovely time?"

At the gate the group breaks up, the Guest to go to bed and read, the kittens to go on mysterious prowls of their own, that humans wot not of. It is useless to question them in the morning. They never tell.

## Friend of All

LOUISA M. ALCOTT, the famous and well-liked author of "Little Women," "Little Men," and other favorites of boys and girls the world over, was very fond of all animals. This love for all dependent creatures was instilled into her nature early in life, in a home environment which did not permit the household use of any meat at all as food.

When she was a small child, Louisa forgot any loss, pain or disappointment as soon as one of her pets attracted and diverted her attention. What she liked best about her farm home were the energetic ducks, the gentle mild-eyed cows, the pigs and other farm animals. She also made friends of many birds.

A story of Louisa's little girl days describes an occasion when she wandered some distance from home and became lost. Considerable time passed and she discovered that she could not find her

way back to her mother and safety. Instead of becoming frightened or hysterical, as most other children would, Louisa sat down in the doorway of a building. There, curling up comfortably, she fell asleep, her head resting with complete trust on the shoulder of a big, friendly dog whom she had never seen before. And even though darkness came on by the time she woke, Louisa was unafraid as long as she had the consolation of her canine protector's presence, stranger though he was.

Later, when she was located she was still curled up safely and trustingly beside the strange dog.

But as much as Louisa Alcott loved dogs and all dumb creatures, her especial favorites were cats. She had a great admiration for them which persisted throughout her lifetime. She would stop to pet a grimy stray cat with as much ardor as she would bestow on the most carefully groomed and reared household pet. It took an understanding heart like hers, to realize that the forgotten strays were in even more need of demonstrations of affection than were their more fortunate fellow felines.

—Mary Agnes Colville



## Pets

Though cannons roar, and battles rage,  
Rob Roy is singing in his cage;

While shells explode and air planes drone,  
The collie gnaws his ancient bone.

And subs on deadly mission fare  
But Puss is purring in her chair.

Things far away no grief begets  
And war means nothing to my pets,

But since I am of them so fond,  
I'll go and buy another bond.

—LALIA MITCHELL THORNTON

## OVER THE AIR

A weekly radio program devoted to animals may be heard each Tuesday afternoon at 1:15 over Springfield radio station WSPR—1270 on your radio dial. This program is presented by Charlena B. Kibbe and sponsored by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Programs will be as follows:

April 4—"Animals in the News."

April 11—"Emergency Care and Treatment of Animals."

April 18—"True Dog Stories."

April 25—"Animals in General."

### Ready Reference

Nothing is so disconcerting as a futile search for a particularly desired copy of *Our Dumb Animals*.

Here is a chance to maintain a permanent file in your private library, by buying a bound volume of the 1943 issues. There you will have ready reference to the many informative articles on nature and animal care. It will be an invaluable aid to your children in their school work.

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Popular Kindness Posters by Morgan Dennis Offered for the Annual Celebration

Remember the Dates: April 23-29 — Humane Sunday, April 23

One week of intensive effort will produce fifty-one more weeks of kinder treatment of our animal friends.



### Order Posters Now!

THESE posters are especially adapted for use in school rooms, club rooms, stores and various places of assembly. Their use advertises Kindness Week better than any other medium.

Plan to promote kindness to animals now by sending for as many copies as you can use. Prices are low and will be sent postpaid:

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# "Never mind wrapping it—

**our Army needs the paper!"**

**T**hat's the idea, Mrs. Jones.

That's the spirit.

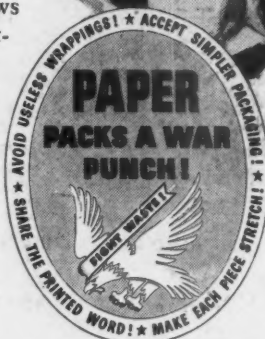
Folks all over the U. S. A. must join with their local storekeepers in a real all-American all-out drive to conserve paper by using less of this essential war material.

Every single piece of paper and paperboard (cardboard, boxboard) you manage to do without means just that much more ammunition for our invasion forces.

Ammunition? Yes, and weapons and food and precious medical supplies and blood plasma. For, as Major General E. B. Gregory, Quartermaster General of the Army, says: "The packing and packaging of Quartermaster Corps supplies for shipment to men on the fighting fronts is fully as important as producing the supplies themselves." And practically every one of the 700,000 different items conveyed to our boys is wrapped for protection in paper or paperboard or both!

No wonder the war need for paper grows daily. No wonder current paper production cannot meet this steadily mounting demand unless you and every other man and woman join Mrs. Jones in *using less paper!* The simple directions at bottom of this page tell you just how to do this—at the store, in your office and at home.

***This and the other magazines, although using only 5 per cent of the paper supply, are saving 450 million pounds of paper this year—to release it for vital war needs.***



*This advertisement, contributed to the war effort by this magazine, was prepared by the War Advertising Council in cooperation with the War Production Board and the Office of War Information.*



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**AT HOME.** Make paper stretch! Use smaller sheets of writing and wrapping paper; conserve paper towels, facial tissues. Share the printed word; give this magazine to a neighbor. Never burn used paper; prepare it for your local committee on paper salvage.

